GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED AREAS/TRIBES
JAYANTA RONGPI

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently appointed a Commission to report on the administration of the Scheduled areas and welfare of Scheduled Tribes in States;

(b) if so, the composition of the Commission, Powers and other terms of reference of the Commission;

(c) whether any such Commission was appointed in the past; ,

(d) if so, the main features of the report of the last such Commission; and

(e) the reasons for appointing the Commission at present?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government have recently appointed an 11 Member Commission to report on the administration ofthe Scheduled Areas and Scheduled tribes.

(b) The composition, powers and terms of references. of the Commission have been included in the office orderissued by order ofthe President. A copy of the order is at Annexure-I.

(c) Yes, Sir. The first Scheduled areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission was constituted under Article 339 (1) ofthe Constitution in 1960.

(d) The main features of the report are the findings of the study conducted by that Commission on the problemsand condition of Scheduled Tribes prior to independence, a review of programmes, policies, administrative structures at the State and Central level. The report also gave several recommendations after a thorough review of the programmes and policies, for the allround development of Scheduled Tribes and Tribal Areas.

(e) The Government felt that it was necessary to review all the tribal development policies and programmes,keeping in view its mandate under Article 46 of the Constitution and the so~ial, political, economic and administrative changes that have taken place since the first Commission`s report was submitted.

[To be published in the Gazette of India,
Extraordinary, Part ll, Section 3, Sub-Section (ii)]

F.1701418193-TD(R)
Govemment of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(R&P Unit)

ORDER

New Delhi, the 18th July 2002

NO.1701418/93-TD(R)- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 339 of the Constitution, the Presidenthereby appoints the Scheduled Areas and the Scheduled Tribes Commission (hereinafter in this Order referred to asthe Commission) consisting of the following persons with effect from the date of publication of this Order, namely:

(i) Sbri Dileep Singh Bhuria Chairperson

(ii) Prof. Meijin Lung Kamson Member

(iii) Dr. Bhupinder Singh Member

(iv) Smt. Chokila Iyer Member

(v) Sbri Kuwarsingh Fulji Valvi Member

(vi) Dr. Babubhai Doljibhai Damore Member

(vii) Prof. Diwakar Minz Member

(viii) 8bri S.K. Kaul Member
(ix) Dr. P. K. Patel Member
(x) Shri Ram Sewak Paikera Member
(xi) Shri P.S. Negi Member-SecretarY

The following shall be the terms of reference of the Commission, namely:

(1) Keeping in view the various provisions of the Co~tution and taking an overview of the tribal scenario intbe country, the Commission shall adumbrate a perspective and a vision for the future and formulate an outline of a viable comprehensive tribal policy.

(2) It shall examine the constitutional provisions in so far as they relate to the Scheduled Tribes, with a viewto constitutional, legal, financial and administrative devices for promotion of tribal interests and recommend measures for adequate and appropriate operation of the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

(3) The Commission shall review the functioning of policies, programmes and schemes being followed as perthe recommendations of the Dhebar Commission and/or being implemented otherwise and suggest fonnulations in this regard as may be called for.

(4) It shall examine the development strategies followed so far and in particular, it shall scrutinize the tribal sub-plan integrated approach covering facets like -

(a) plan and non-plan sectors e.g. agriculture and allied sectors, forest, education, health, employment, role of financial and cooperative institutions, displacement of tribals

(b) protective measures of a legal and administrative nature as in the field of land alienation, money-lending, excise etc.,

(c) financial and budgetary arrangements and make such suggestions for modifications and innovations as it may consider necessary.

(5) It shall examine the socio-political and administrative set-up, particularly with reference to Part IX ofthe Constitution relating to Panchayats and the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996,and suggest measures to make it effective for self-governance and socio-economic advancement of the tribal people.

(6) Any other matter connected with the administration of the Scheduled Areas and/or the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States and Union territories.

3. The Commission may -

(a) obtain such infonnation as they may consider necessary or relevant for their purpose from the Central Government, the State Governments and such other authorities, organizations or individuals as may, in the opinion of the Commission, be of assistance to their work;

(b) appoint such sub-committees from amongst their members as the Commission may think fit for the purpose of exercising such powers and performing such duties as may be delegated to them by the Commission;

(c) visit or depute any sub-committee to visit such parts of India as the Commission may consider necessary or expedient;

(d) hold their sittings or the sittings of any sub-committee at such times and such places as may be determined by or under the authority of the Chairperson;

(e) act notwithstanding the temporary absence of any member of the Commission or the existence of any vacancy amongst the members; and

(f) regulate their own procedure in so far as no provision is made in this Order in that behalf.

4. The Commission shall submit its report to the President as soon as possible but not later than one year from the date of publication of this Order.

Place: New Delhi
Date : 18th July 2002 By Order of the President,

Sd/-
S. Chatterjee)
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India